

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1724, April 5, 1952

HER PRIZE WAS AN AIR TRIP TO AMERICA

English girl's memorable experience

An air trip to America and ten days among the most hospitable people in the world—that was the good fortune enjoyed recently by 17-year-old Rosemary Utting, a clever young violinist who is a student of the Surrey College of Music. Winner of a competition organised by the United Nations Council for Education in World Citizenship, Rosemary broadcast on T V and the radio, and also visited American schools and talked about school life in England. Here is her account of a memorable experience, written specially for C N readers.

It was really most thrilling to be on my first air trip on board the Flying Dutchman, en route for New York, accompanied by my friend Diana, the violin given to me by the Chief Guide.

As representative of the U.N. Youth of Britain, I was to meet the American Association of U.N., and Mr. Paul Whiteman, sponsors of the "One World Youth Talent Project," who arranged my programme of appearances on T V and radio, and at schools and colleges, to demonstrate the value of music as a common meeting-ground for the furtherance of international relations.

YOUNG ESCORTS

As I am a Sea Ranger, the American Girl Scouts were actively interested, and in fact entertained and escorted me on many occasions during my visit.

On arrival at Idlewild Airport I was welcomed as an old friend; and this was maintained during the whole of my stay, accompanied by overwhelming hospitality.

My schedule began with a press conference; as I have no recollection of what I said, I await the arrival of a scrap book of my U.S. tour as seen through the eyes and ears of the U.S. Press with somewhat mixed feelings.

Inside information



A member of the Women's Junior Air Corps being told all about the inside of a cockpit before taking her examination for a flying scholarship. Her instructor, Sergeant Johnson, aged 19, already holds a pilot's licence.

My New York headquarters were with a charming couple in their flat overlooking the Hudson River. It is impossible to describe all that I saw there; like most visitors, I was very impressed by the gigantic buildings, and I ascended many of them.

The new U.N. headquarters is like a tall flat box, mostly glass; here I made a record for world circulation.

BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Looking from the top of the Empire State Building, the tallest in the world, I could see the Queen Mary in the harbour, and had a wonderful bird's-eye view of the city. I learned that the Statue of Liberty has an internal staircase to the top, where windows look out from the crown.

At Radio City Music Hall, where I saw the film *The Greatest Show on Earth*, I was very intrigued by the moving stage. The symphony orchestra platform rose from the pit, proceeded across the stage, and then upwards at the back to a height of some 40 feet, the orchestra playing throughout.

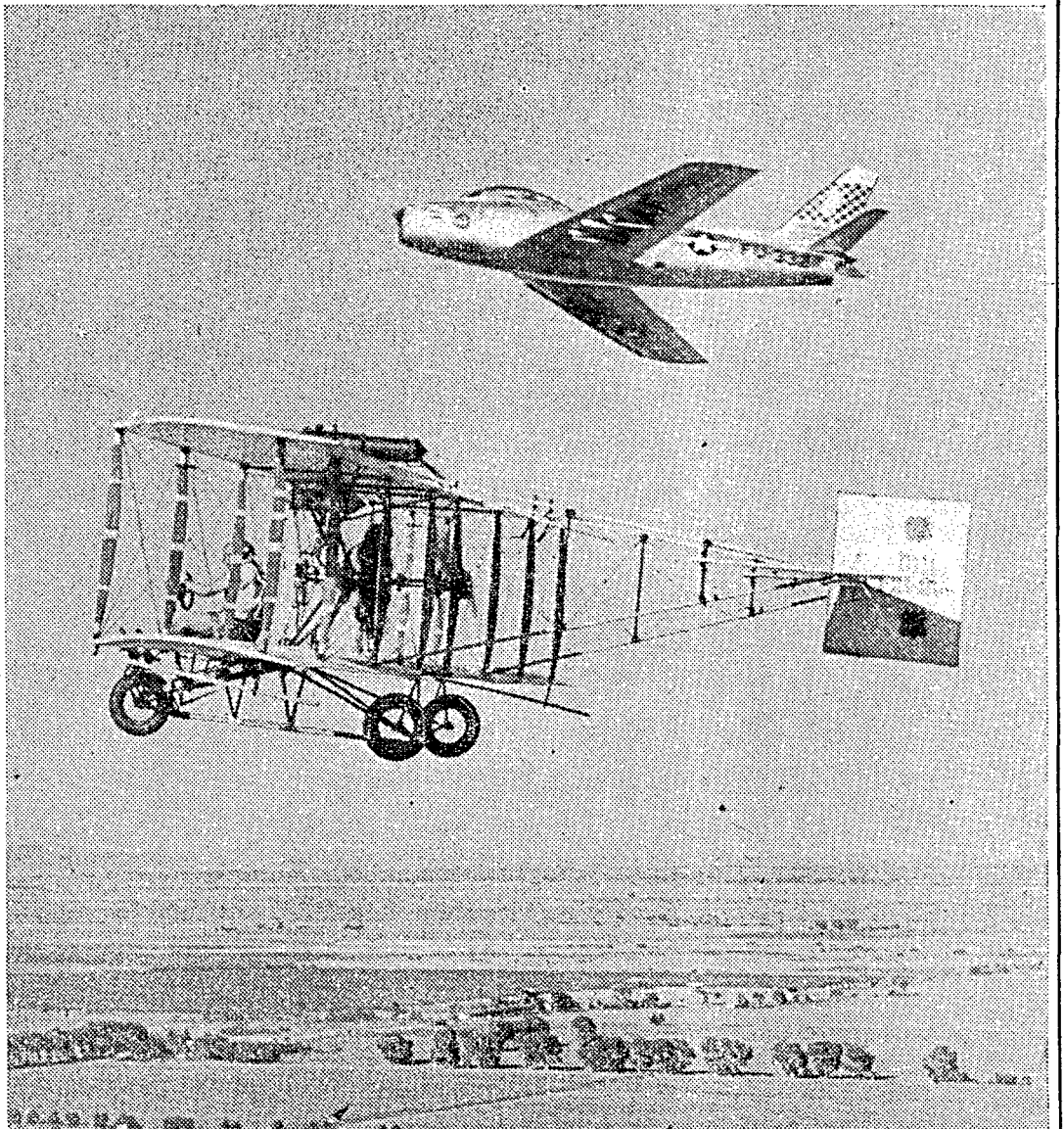
Included in my tour were visits to the famous Juilliard School of Music and to Dalton School, which gives concerts of new chamber music to young people, and to Hunter's College, the largest women's educational establishment in the world, with some 5000 students. (I must not forget to mention also my visit to a famous fashion house to select two evening dresses for public appearances.)

FIRST PERFORMANCE

My actual performance began with a TV show in Paul Whiteman's Teen Club in Philadelphia; I had come by train from New York with the company. In the show was a competitive item sponsored by an auto firm, the prize being a motor car and a complete kitchen outfit, including a refrigerator. This was a weekly event, each week's winner passing to the next week's competition, and the prize going to the competitor with five consecutive wins.

I was not, of course, a participant, but a guest artist. A seven-year-old Negro girl singing blues with a grown-up voice and style registered her fourth consecutive win. The audience numbered

Forty years of flying



The progress made in aviation in the last 40 years could not be better illustrated than by this picture of an American Sabre Jet overtaking a 1912 model pusher biplane. Not only has there been a radical change in design, but speed has jumped from the 60 miles an hour of the ancient biplane to 670 miles, the record held by the Sabre.

about 2000, mostly bobby-soxers, and the award went by popular applause. All my TV and radio shows had audiences of this size and they were not sparing in enthusiasm.

On a visit to a noted sea-food restaurant I found myself face to face with the largest lobster I had ever seen; I felt like St. George confronting the dragon. My success was, I am told, in the same category as his. Although I will be sparing in my mention of food, I leave readers to guess what is an establishment calling itself Hamburger Heaven.

Another tour I made was to Baltimore, passing through country much resembling Surrey. Here I stayed outside the city, in a more old-world atmosphere. I visited Fern Park High School at its anniversary occasion and was made its first honorary member. Many schools in America have 5000 pupils, with classes of nearly 100.

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BANK WHERE YOU HELP YOURSELF

At a New York bank recently customers were allowed to dip their hands into the till and take out their own small change for dollars. This was part of an experiment to reduce the amount of work done by cashiers.

At the end of the first day it was found that there had been no cheating, and if the experiment remains successful the system will be extended to include dollar notes.

BROWN ALL OVER

A Swedish chemist has invented a bathing-costume material which will enable the wearer to get completely sun-tanned.

The material is a plastic substance that lets through the long-wave ultra-violet rays which give the tan, but stops the short-wave rays which cause sunburn.

GULLS v. CROWS

While a gathering of crows, sea-gulls, and pigeons were feeding on scraps at Bruntsfield Links, Edinburgh, it was noticed that a group of four gulls seemed to be defending a comrade against two crows.

Closer inspection revealed that the attacked gull had only one leg, and that the two crows were trying to steal a morsel of bread from its beak.

The other four gulls kept the marauding crows at bay until their crippled companion had finished its meal; then they all flew off.

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WHEN A NATION SENDS A NOTE

"A note has been sent." These five short words are becoming more and more familiar in Foreign Office announcements of Britain's dealings with other countries. What do they actually imply?

A NOTE from one Government to another can herald new hopes of peace for millions of people. A strong note may, on the other hand, send the diplomatic barometer pointing to "stormy." The official note, too, may be a mere request for information, or a mild rebuke for some inconsiderate official action.

Whatever the occasion, the utmost politeness of procedure is observed in the actual exchange of the sealed documents.

Just now the effects are being weighed of the exchange of letters between this country—in company with other Western Powers—and Russia, who a few weeks ago proposed a four-power conference to discuss the future of Germany.

AT THE KREMLIN

This note from Russia to Britain came as a complete surprise. Sir Alvary Gascoigne, our Ambassador in Moscow, received a sudden invitation to the Kremlin, and amid courteous formalities was there presented with the unexpected note and asked to forward it to his Government in London.

As with all such notes, the Ambassador had a draft translation made and cabled this in-code as soon as possible after sending the actual document to the Foreign Office in Whitehall.

Translation of a note can be a major difficulty in dealing with these diplomatic exchanges, especially when the language of the sending country is very far removed in its very essence from that of the receiver country. The difficulty is to interpret the exact meaning of every phrase.

Britons find Russian and Chinese notes the hardest to translate with absolute precision. Our experts on these countries are among the most talented in the world, yet it may take several days and more than two draft translations—apart from the first one cabled by the Ambassador—before the Foreign Office

is satisfied that the exact meaning of the letter is understood.

The length and subject matter of the recent Russian note, for example, led to conferences in the Foreign Office that lasted many days. Then came consultations between Mr. Anthony Eden, the Foreign Minister, and the Ambassadors in London of America and France, to whom Russia had sent identical notes. Inevitably, slightly different interpretations are given to such letters, according to a country's point of view—and this particular note was no exception.

What was now required was an answer to which all the receiving countries felt they could sincerely subscribe, so more conferences between them were called for.

The Western Powers were startled when they first received Russia's note, because Russia had conceded that a new united Germany should have her own armed forces. This was a departure from previous Kremlin ideas.

SERIOUS STUDY

One Western opinion on the letter held that the Russians were trying to confuse the progress made recently in joining Germany with Western defence plans. It was held, however, that Russia's suggestions must be seriously examined to see if they offered a chance of healing some of the breaches of opinion between East and West.

So that, although the process of exchanging notes is slower than conversations and consultations between the ambassadors and ministers of the countries to which they are appointed, most vital results can come from them.

And even though one of the countries concerned may at times seek unfair advantage by the premature publication of their views, diplomatic notes help to promote harmony between the nations, and no nation would wish to—or could—dispense with them.

Her Prize was an air trip

Continued from page 1

For the last week of my stay I went north to Troy, where I was a guest for several days at Russell Sage College. Besides giving concerts, I took part in ordinary school life, which is much more informal than ours. The students, who are in their late teens and upwards, dress in slacks or sweaters and skirts for class-work, and on Sundays they all appear dressed in the white college attire.

Calls both by telephone and in person from boy friends are permitted, and they can be invited to dinner and dances at the college. To be "Pinned" is to be engaged, and an ornamental brooch is worn as the first step to the later and more important engagement ring.

The American educational system would appear to operate till

rather later in life than ours, and I understand that it is normal for medical students not to reach the qualifying stage till their late 20s.

On March 11, having received my sailing permit, I boarded the Flying Dutchman at Idlewild in a terrific rainstorm. We soon got above the clouds into a glorious sunshine, and it never became dark, as there was a bright moon till within an hour or two of reaching the Scottish airport, Prestwick.

I changed to Scottish Airlines and safely arrived at Northolt Aerodrome, punctual to the minute. A paper bag containing a hat and a stuffed toy skunk with moving eyes made the full journey to Amsterdam, being absent-mindedly left by me at Prestwick. I understand that a special retrieving department is dealing with this.



By the C.N. Press Gallery Correspondent

AS Alice might have said, everybody is getting curiously and curiously about everybody else. A recent Parliamentary answer shows that we are living in the Age of the Inquiring Mind.

In the last two or three years 30 different subjects have been examined in this country by the method called the social survey. This means asking ordinary citizens a lot of questions.

Among these topics were young people's diets and people's spending habits. One special inquiry was made to find out whether telephone subscribers really want a regular change of the several massive volumes which make up the London telephone directory.

COMING back to that inquiring mind, what do they know of spelling who only spelling know? "Spelling," says Lord Ammon, "means that when, say 16, dockers are working, four or five of them break away for a rest and still draw their full money."

Another peer gives further evidence of the inquiring mind. "May I ask," he said, "if the answer is a lemon or whether there is any hope?"

WITHOUT a knowledge of history it is sometimes impossible to explain modern progress. That was how this amusing interlude came about during a debate on the Army estimates late one night.

First M.P.: The English longbow, the Welsh billhook, and the Swiss halberd—simple infantry weapons—defeated the cumbersome knights. That is the history of the Middle Ages.

Second M.P.: Can we have some information as to about what time we shall get to the Battle of Waterloo?

The Speaker: I must confess I had been sharing the hopes of the Hon. Member. I must ask Mr. — without more ado to come to the present time.

First M.P.: If I had been allowed one more sentence I should have got to Korea.

LORD SEMPILL is a Scottish representative peer—and an authority on the Stone of Scone.

He pointed out to the Lords the other day one of the many legends clinging to the Coronation Stone—that when the rightful ruler sits upon it the stone voices its pleasure "in deep tones." But that usurpers are met with "stony silence."

By the way, Lord Sempill has definite views on the age at which a child should start school. He thinks six years is quite early enough—and he speaks as the father of five children and the grandfather of three more.

Lord Calverley, on the other hand, started school at the age of three years. "I won all four of my prizes before I was six," he says, "and I never won a prize after I was seven."

News From Everywhere

NO PEPYS, PLEASE

For security reasons United States officers and men serving overseas are being officially discouraged from keeping diaries.

A Zulu woman, Bernice Sbonigile Mbambo, has been awarded the Bachelor of Commerce degree of the University of Witwatersrand. She is believed to be the first non-European woman to attain such a distinction in South Africa.

The BBC propose to televise a short programme dealing with road safety before each public holiday.

The British Transport Commission are to build a new two-storey passenger and cargo terminal at Southampton to replace one destroyed during the war. It will cost £900,000.

2500 M.P.H.

Scientists have stated that an atomic plane could fly at 2500 m.p.h. for almost any length of time without refuelling. It could fly right along the Earth's equator in less than ten hours.

Britain's 700,000 visitors last year spent about £105,000,000 on fares on British ships and aircraft. This year 750,000 visitors are expected.

The small animals' ambulances of Our Dumb Friends League covered 95,738 miles during 1951, and the horse ambulance 79,994 miles.

A.S.S.

No. 1 Air Signals School—A.S.S. for short—at Swanton, Morley, Norfolk, has been given a donkey for a mascot.

A regular tanker service of hot bitumen, intended for use as a road dressing in West Africa, has been started between France and Dakar. The bitumen is pumped ashore to a large heated storage tank on the quay. One load of 2400 tons treats about 120 miles of road.

Twenty-five British air cadets will change places with twenty-five Canadian air cadets in the summer.

Britain, showing 23 makes of cars, was the largest single exhibitor at the International Motor Show at Geneva.

BALLET ON THE BEAT

Ballet is to be made compulsory at the State Police College, San José, California. Officials say the purpose is to instil discipline, grace, and control into the movements of policemen.

A grove of 33,000 trees has been dedicated near Jerusalem in memory of Field-Marshal Smuts.

The Post Office installed 813,396 telephones last year, bringing the total to 5,650,391.

The Vatican is to have its own television station.

RESOURCE

A motorist went for a walk in Richmond Park and returned to find himself locked out of his car. A passer-by forced a window open half-an-inch and recovered the key with the aid of a magnet on a string.

Seventeen churches are taking part in a play Go Down Moses, to be performed next month at Southgate, Middlesex. It relates the story of Moses to the problems of today.

The King of Denmark, Colonel-in-Chief of The Buffs, will attend the dedication of the regimental memorials in the Warriors' Chapel in Canterbury Cathedral on May 10.

A device that shells eggs, grinds beans, dries hair, and cleans carpets is being sold in Holland.

A Persian cat named Roger has three times been bought from a pet shop in Nottingham; but each time he has run away and returned to his pet-shop friends—mice, rats, birds, dogs, and monkeys.

FORTITUDE

Phyllis Parker, a 13-year-old patient at Friargate Hospital, Northallerton, Yorkshire, has been awarded the Girl Guides' badge of fortitude. She has been in hospital for 2½ years with a spinal complaint.

Some 98 Sea Scout Troops are recognised by the Admiralty, and last year 166 Sea Scouts joined the Royal Navy and 132 the Merchant Navy.

A balloon released last September at a fete in Queenborough, Kent, has been found at Lusaka, in Northern Rhodesia.

Something to TREASURE

The UNIQUE PEN of course!

With years of trouble-free writing ahead, and no expensive replacements, a "Unique" pen is undoubtedly a treasure—and at a price you can afford.

With two tone steel nib 4.8 and 6.9 inc. Tax.
With 14ct. gold nib 10.9, 13.6, 16.1, and 19.1 inc. Tax.

CALFDOZERS AT WORK

Smaller editions of bulldozers, called calfdozers, are being used to clear ships' holds of mineral cargoes like coal, iron ore, and limestone.

Holds packed to the hatch mouths with ore are first partly emptied by huge grabs which plunge into the mineral, close, and swing away to discharge it quickly into trucks.

After the ore has been cleared down to the skin, as stevedores term the floors of the hold, the calfdozer is lowered and pushes the mineral into piles beneath the hatches so that the grabs can continue to raise full loads. This abolishes the heavy manual labour of shovelling the cargo into giant steel tubs for removal by crane and rope.

WAR ON ANTS

Just outside the centre of Darwin, Northern Australia, a war with termites (white ants) is costing the Australian Government hundreds of pounds.

The most persistent battle in this war has been over a termite mound which encroaches on the road between Government House and the Administrator's office in Darwin.

Orders were given for the mound to be cleared. The ants rebuilt during the night. The fight went on; men shovelled by day and the termites replenished by night.

When the CN correspondent sent this news the mound had cost the Australian Government £400 and the termites were still unvanquished.

NOT AN INCH OUT

The Errochty tunnel, part of the Tummel-Garry scheme of the North of Scotland Hydro-Electricity Board, has just been completed after three years' work.

Some 4500 tons of explosive were used in the excavation of 500,000 tons of rock. The tunnel is six miles long, yet when the last barrier between two approaches was removed the alignment was less than one inch out. The tunnel runs about 600 feet below ground.

ELY'S CROWN IN DANGER

The crowning glory of Ely Cathedral—its octagonal lantern or tower—is in grave danger from the ravages of the death-watch beetle.

A unique example of 14th-century work, this lantern's construction was a marvel of engineering, equal to anything that architects could achieve today. It was built by Alan de Walsingham, and he is said to have explored all England for the eight oaks to form the angles.

He found them at last at Chick-sands, in Bedfordshire, huge oaks that must have been growing in King Alfred's England.

Seen from the outside, Ely's lantern is like a beautiful two-tiered crown. Inside the cathedral it is a memorable experience to look up into this dome of light and colour.

Now, alas, beetles have eaten into the ancient timbers. Insecticide has been used; but considerable restoration is urgently needed if this gem of English architecture is to be saved, and the Bishop of Ely has decided to open a special fund.

WHEN YOU SAVE PAPER BRITAIN SAVES DOLLARS

YOUNG SHEPHERD'S BRAVERY

Seventeen-year-old Neville Cant, of Burren Junction, New South Wales, has recently been presented with the R.S.P.C.A. Silver Medal for risking his life to save several hundred sheep.

Accompanied by his sheep dog, Neville drove 700 sheep through a veritable wall of flames when a big fire swept the countryside last November. The dog was burnt to death, and Neville had his clothes burnt from his back.

But, although suffering from extensive burns, the brave lad went on to drive the scorched sheep several miles to water, thus saving many of them from certain death.



Eastern Art in East End

An exhibition of the arts of India and China is now being held at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in the East End of London. Two of the items are the 15th-century bronze statue of the Hindu God of Wisdom, Ganesha, (left) and a Chinese bronze vase inlaid with gold and silver.



WHERE DOBBIN GRAZED

The decline in the number of horses during the past 50 years has released much land for food production. Fields where horses grazed, or where hay and oats were grown for them, are now used for other crops.

It has been estimated that between four million and six million acres have been gained in this way, for in 1900 there were nearly a million more horses on farms than there are now, and, perhaps, the same number of town transport horses, Army horses, and pit ponies. Each of them needed food for the production of which two or three acres of land were required.

This estimate has been made by Mr. K. E. Hunt in The Farm Economist. Yet, while we have thus gained at the expense of losing our horses, we have lost in the same period some 3,500,000 acres, owing to the encroachment of towns and factories, and to the Services taking over land.

CHEAP HOLIDAYS ABROAD

For people who do not mind making their own beds, or helping with the serving or clearing of meals, tempting opportunities for seeing other lands are offered by the International Friendship League, of which Lord Boyd-Orr is President.

There is a reduction of about £1 for holiday-makers between 16 and 21 years of age, and reductions of up to 35s. per person for groups of four or more young people.

More information about this, and also about holiday centres in Britain, is obtainable from I.F.L., 3 Cromwell Road, London, S.W.7.

200-YEAR-OLD MILL MADE NEW

One of the few survivors of its type in East Anglia, the 200-year-old post mill overlooking the Blyth Valley from the little hill at Holton St. Peter, Suffolk, is now as spick and span as at any time in its history. Restoration work, which has been in progress for two years, has been completed.

FREE BUS RIDES

While Londoners are complaining about the increase in bus fares, civic leaders and children in various American cities are enjoying free rides on three of London's double-decker buses. But the arrangement is one which will benefit all of us.

The three buses are touring the United States as part of a campaign sponsored by the British Travel Association to arouse interest in holidays in Britain, and thus bring more tourists to this country.

The buses will traverse 28 States and make stops in about 40 cities. They have their own crews, and on one of them the conductor clips and distributes tickets as souvenirs—to the accompaniment, let us hope, of that peculiarly London cry "Enymorfaresplees?"

SCHOOL PROGRESS IN HONDURAS

Forty-two boys and girls between 12 and 14 have been making educational history in the colony of British Honduras. They were chosen by competitive examination as the first pupils at the technical high school opened in Belize, the capital, by the aid of a grant of over £50,000 from the United Kingdom.

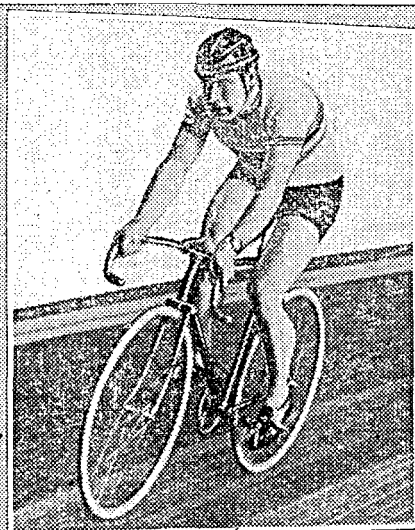
Eventually the school will have 160 pupils, able to study engineering, cabinet-making, cookery, and needlework, as well as mathematics, chemistry, and Spanish.



Floating clubhouse

These Wapping boys are playing table-tennis in the old Thames sailing-barge Normanhurst, which they have converted into a club with a library, workshop, and canteen.

Be like the famous -



... fit
DUNLOP
CYCLE TYRES
as used by Reg Harris

JOLLY YOUNG VIKINGS



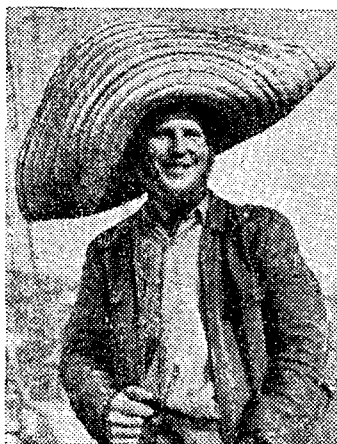
The lads in these pictures are Swedish cadets of the training ship *Sunbeam*, a four-masted barquentine. They called not long ago at Southampton after a six-month training voyage of 15,900 miles.

Their skipper, Captain Hagstrom, said they stood up well to the test. As part of their training they went aloft on the 118-foot masts in all weathers. They also scrubbed decks and cooked meals.

Some of the lads had adventures on land as well as afloat. For instance, Lars Alvert and Jan Olofsson went ashore to collect seashells near Dakar in West Africa, and then got themselves lost in the nearby jungle. For three days they had to live like Tarzans until they were found by a rescue party.

The *Sunbeam* was built at Cowes and bought by the Swedish Government for training cadets.

Cadets on the bowsprit of the *Sunbeam*, tied up near the *Queen Elizabeth*, during their visit to Southampton. Below, 19-year-old cadet Sture Nachtweg in an outsize hat—a souvenir from Haiti.



MUSEUMS TO AID SCHOLARS

The Museums Educational Activities Committee, formed to meet the criticism that the museums were not playing a big enough part in education, has had its first conference—at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

One of the speakers, Mrs. Jacquetta Hawkes, expressed the view that a child should be free to explore at will in the public galleries; also that the curator of a museum was probably the best person to conduct instruction there.

Others speakers thought that visits to museums by school parties should be of three kinds: the general excursion tour; the set museum lesson, illustrated by exhibits; and the visit linked with a specific school project.

Mr. C. Carter, Director of the Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museum, suggested that a museum's educational service should provide not only for the schoolchild but also for the research scholar.

Nature Study—a new and practical approach to the observation of animals and birds is encouraged by introducing children to

DOG

- The identification of each breed and recording when seen.

SPOTTING

- Instructive outdoor activity.
- Encourages kindness to animals.

The first step to an intimate knowledge of animal life.

A leaflet has been prepared to enable observers to begin this absorbing occupation. Available free in bundles of 50 to teachers and youth leaders from

EDUCATION (J) DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL CANINE DEFENCE LEAGUE
10, Seymour Street, London, W.1. (30C)

CUT OUT THIS ADVT.
AND HAND TO YOUR TEACHER WHO WILL ARRANGE FOR LEAFLETS TO BE SENT TO YOUR SCHOOL

In the Air

By the C N Flying Correspondent

Pilot Crusoe

ADVENTURE came to the pilot of a Proctor air-taxi on the last leg of what appeared to be an uneventful 10,700-mile delivery flight from London to Darwin.

While landing on the island of Soemba, off Indonesia, he damaged the plane's undercarriage, and was stranded there for more than two weeks—living on native food.

Eventually, after contacting officials on the mainland by radio, his rescue was arranged. The damaged Proctor was hauled across seven miles of rough country, loaded aboard a ship, and ferried to Jakarta.

With the assistance of an Indonesian carpenter, the pilot, Mr. J. H. Laxton, repaired the undercarriage in three weeks.

Airliner "flies" on ground

THE Bristol Company have made a non-flying version of the huge Britannia airliner. It is designed to test the most important items of equipment to be installed on these machines before the first flying prototype takes the air.

Built to full scale, it represents the forward compartments of the Britannia's fuselage and the in-board section of the wing.

This "plane that will never fly" has tested, among other things, the fuel flow from the tanks to the engines. In doing this, the nose was suspended in the air to represent a steep climb; the tail was lifted to represent a dive, and by alternately lifting the wings, rolling movements were effected.

By using this strange "aircraft" it is expected to overcome many of the teething troubles normally experienced in new machines.

Facts about a fighter

SOME astonishing facts and figures have been given about the F-86D Sabre, which is typical of the present generation of radar-equipped jet fighters.

Aerodynamists spent 72,520 hours designing it, and it took the efforts of more than 2000 people to invent and manufacture the 500,000 individual parts. There are 495 valves and 6400 coils, condensers, and resistors in the radar set, and five miles of electric wiring—15 times as much as in an average house.

Engineers spent 1,131,992 hours on the machine before it flew, of which 84,817 hours were occupied in fitting flight test instruments.

The total bill for a Sabre has not been revealed, but its electronic equipment costs nearly £30,000.

Air-cooled jet blades

ONE way of attaining more power from a turbojet is to run it at higher temperatures, but this means that the blades would have to be made from very scarce materials to withstand the enormous heat.

Recently, however, designers have been experimenting with blades cooled by air channelled up through the blade roots and into the tiny blades themselves.

BOARD OF TRADE

The second of a new series of articles explaining the work of the great State Departments which most directly affect the everyday lives of British citizens, young and old.

THE Government department known as the Board of Trade exists to help trade—to "oil the works"—simply that!

The actual purpose for which the Board in effect grew up from the time of James I, and the policy it has consistently followed since, proves this. It proves, too, that it does not interfere in the relations between British merchants and foreign interests, as has sometimes been suggested.

The Board of Trade began as a committee of the Privy Council (the chief instrument through which undemocratic monarchs ruled), and was set up "to take into consideration the true causes of the decay of trade and scarcity of Coyne within the Kingdom, and to consult of the means for removing of these inconveniences."

Encouragement of trade and industry at home, coupled with the care of overseas plantations, continued to be its concern until in 1779 the sugar, cotton, tobacco, and other plantations passed to the care of the Colonial Secretary.

GROWING IMPORTANCE

The Board, as a Board, was formed by William III in 1696. Sometimes it was active, sometimes it lapsed into idleness, but the younger William Pitt revived interest in it.

Since 1853 it has had the status of a Government department under a President, with a parliamentary secretary in place of a Vice-president. The growth of Britain as the world's workshop, the intricacies of the international trade network, and the impact of war have increased its scope and responsibilities. Certain functions, like those relating to shipping have, however, been transferred to other ministries.

Today the President, who is always a Cabinet Minister, has two parliamentary secretaries, one concerned with home trade, the other with overseas trade.

Before the last war the Board had become the official adviser on all matters of home and foreign trade. It also, as it does now, negotiated trade agreements with Dominion, Colonial, and foreign governments. Moreover, it exercised a general supervision over the production and allocation of raw materials and manufactured goods. Manufacturers, however, were free to buy their own

materials, make what goods they could, and sell them at competitive prices.

During the war, however, there was a great increase in the work of the Board, and this has persisted to the present day. There was, for example, a control system embracing quality, quantity, and price was necessary for a whole range of articles for use and wear, often from the raw material right through to the finished product.

Clothes rationing and the Utility schemes affecting cloth, furniture, and other products were all handled by the Board, who also undertook surveys to find out people's needs. The clothes' problems of the Outsize, the Growing Child, and the Industrial Worker were thus analysed and, where possible, remedied.

Although clothes rationing and many other controls have since been swept away, wartime experience, entailing close and comradely consultation with so many trade interests, brought the Board new confidence and prestige.

The first big post-war task of the Board of Trade was to help industry back from a wartime to a peacetime economy. As an example, the control of war materials, the world scarcity of which has been alarmingly revealed by Western rearmament programmes, remained under the Board until the new Ministry of Materials was set up last year.

VARIED ACTIVITIES

The Board works today through 19 divisions, of which seven deal with various groups of industries and manufactures. One of these deals with subjects as various as packaging and precious stones, films and furs. Another sees that the standards of weights and measures are maintained.

In addition, the Board has certain powers and duties concerning insurance and company law, patents, bankruptcy, and the distribution of industry, to touch only the surface of its activities.

In these days when foreign competition is growing and the race for new markets is subjecting our inventors and manufacturers to sharp new tests, the Board will probably have more, not less, to do, if Britain's 50 million people are to maintain their present standard of living.

WATER FOR THIRSTY LAND

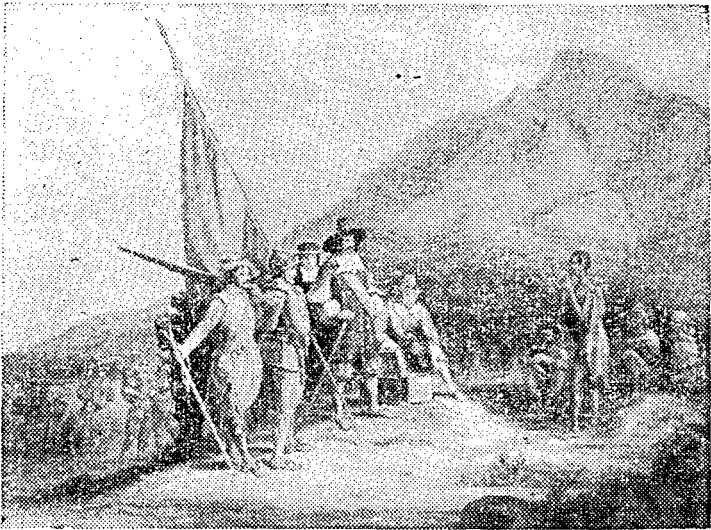
What Canada calls the "dust-bowl of Saskatchewan" will be turned into prosperous wheatfields if a plan now being carried out is a success.

Twenty years ago violent windstorms blew away thousands of acres of the fertile top soil in the farming areas 60 miles south of the city of Saskatoon.

Farmers in those parts have been eking out a living by dry-farming in the dust that remains; they have been getting only 15 bushels of wheat an acre, as

against at least 50 in a well irrigated area. Under the new plan, water from the Saskatchewan River is to be turned across the parched land in small irrigation canals.

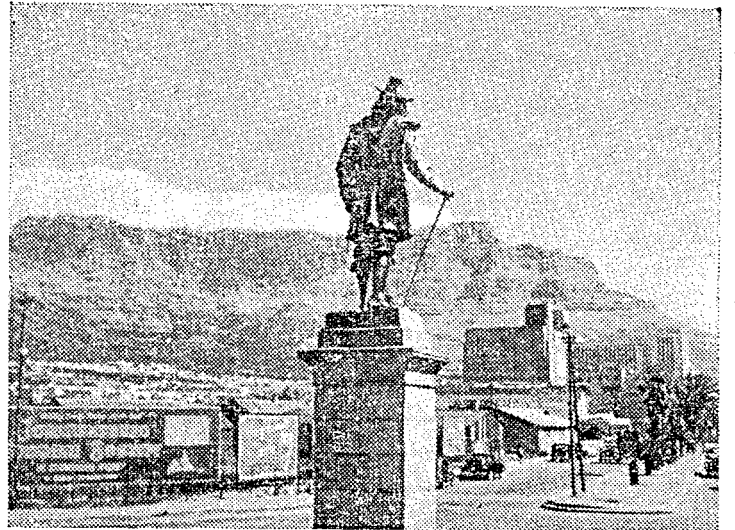
A 135-mile-long lake will be formed by erecting a 210-foot-high barrage dam which will extend for a mile and a half across the valley of the river. This will provide an adequate supply of water throughout the year and enable heavy wheat crops to be raised in what is today a dust-bowl.



This early painting shows Jan van Riebeeck and his men, landing on the shores of Table Bay in 1652, being met by several wandering Bushmen



A portrait of Jan van Riebeeck by Dirk Craey in the Rijksmuseum at Amsterdam. A reproduction of this painting is on one of the South African commemorative stamps; other stamps show his wife, his seal of office, the arrival of his ships, and the historic landing



This fine statue of the founder looks across the city of Cape Town towards Table Mountain, which has its "tablecloth" of cloud

South African Epic—First White Settlers at the Cape

THE history of South Africa may be said to have begun just 300 years ago, when a party of European settlers landed at the Cape of Good Hope on April 6, 1652.

The Cape had been discovered by the Portuguese in 1486; and when Sir Francis Drake passed by in 1580 on a voyage that had taken him round the world, he was so moved by the beauty of the place that he wrote in his log, "A stately thing, and the fairest cape we saw in our whole circumference of the Earth."

But white settlers did not come to the Cape until Portugal had declined and England and Holland were the great commercial powers of Europe. The Dutch East India Company decided to open a victualling station at the Cape, a halfway house for ships plying between Europe and the East.

Three ships left Holland on Christmas Eve 1651. They were Dromedaris, Reijger, and Goede Hoop. About 80 of their passengers would be settled at the Cape of Good Hope, with Jan van Riebeeck as the first Commander.

As a young man of good family in Holland, van Riebeeck had been trained as a doctor by the Barber Surgeons' Guild, and it was as a ship's surgeon that he first took ser-

vice with the Dutch East India Company.

It was due to his courage and leadership that the new colony survived and founded a nation. He was a remarkable man—resourceful, enterprising, brave, persevering.

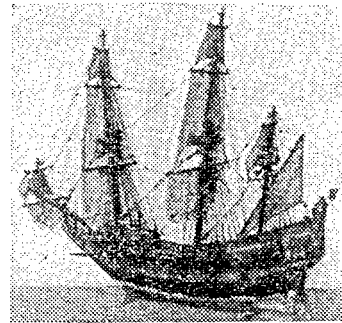
He was like a father to his lonely little party at the Cape, caring for them when they were sick, ruling them justly, building boats to kill whales and seals, starting the wine industry, planting the first wheat, and cultivating the first fruit trees.

WHEN the settlers first saw their new home they marvelled at the beauty of the flat-topped Table Mountain and the half-moon curve of Table Bay. But they wondered about the wild animals and the natives, and they remembered that a Portuguese admiral had been killed on the beach a hundred years before.

Hendrik Boom, who had been appointed Head Gardener, began testing the soil to see how his crops would grow, while van Riebeeck was thinking of the wooden stockade and the fort he would build. They would have to start soon, for the Reijger and Dromedaris were due to sail on to Batavia, and only the little Goede Hoop would remain in Table Bay.

Soon they met the natives, led by Hottentot Harry, who spoke to them in the language he had learned from the sailors of passing English ships.

He promised to bring them some cattle, and the Commander promised to pay for them in copper plate and copper wire. But many months went by before that happened.



A model of the type of ship in which the pioneers sailed to the Cape

IN the meantime they lived chiefly on salt pork. There were no vegetables, there was a bread shortage, and the only variety in their food was the fish they caught in the bay.

Hendrik Boom sowed his first experimental garden, work was started on the fort, and in the

meanwhile they all lived in tents on the beach.

When the first winter started that May, it dealt hardly with the settlers. The canvas was small protection against the rain that was hurled at them by the howling wind.

Dysentery and fever attacked them, and a third of them were too ill to work. They prayed for fine weather.

On the evening of the first day of June the first European child was born in South Africa, in the midst of a great storm. At the same time, men were dying in the foul weather, and the settlers knew then why Bartholomew Diaz had wanted to call this place the Cape of Storms when he discovered it in 1486.

WITH the coming of September conditions seemed to be improving with the approaching summer.

Van Riebeeck was able to sail across to the nearby Robben Island, returning with Dwyker birds, some penguins, and also thousands of penguin eggs. But there was no rice, and meat and wheat were running short.

Hottentot Harry arrived with three cows and four sheep—a disappointing haul. But the Goede

Hoop returned from a trip up the coast with fish and more penguin eggs. The settlement managed to keep going.

Later in the year disease attacked them again. The food position was critical, but Hottentot Harry came back once more, this time with 89 head of cattle and 284 sheep.

Hendrik Boom's garden had started to yield; and when Christmas came the little settlement seemed to be well on the road to self-sufficiency. There were prayers and hymns and hopes for a better New Year.

But during that first Christmas night a lion killed one of the sheep.

BY the first anniversary of their arrival, all seemed to be well.

They could not know, however, that the hardest years lay ahead, and that their labours and their sufferings were the foundation of the vast country that was to become eventually the Union of South Africa.

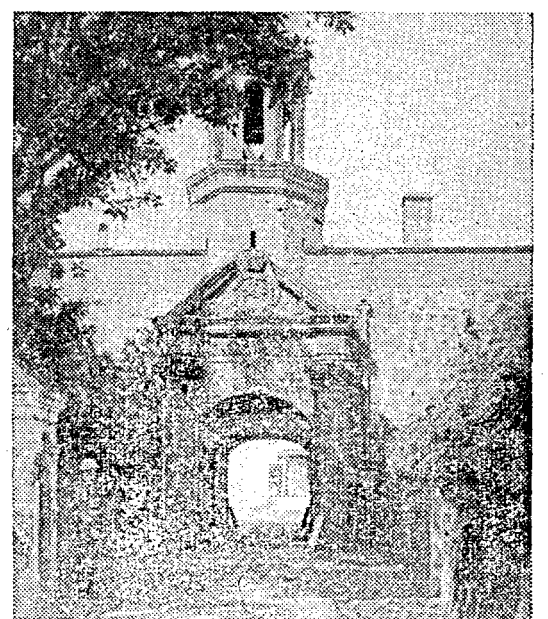
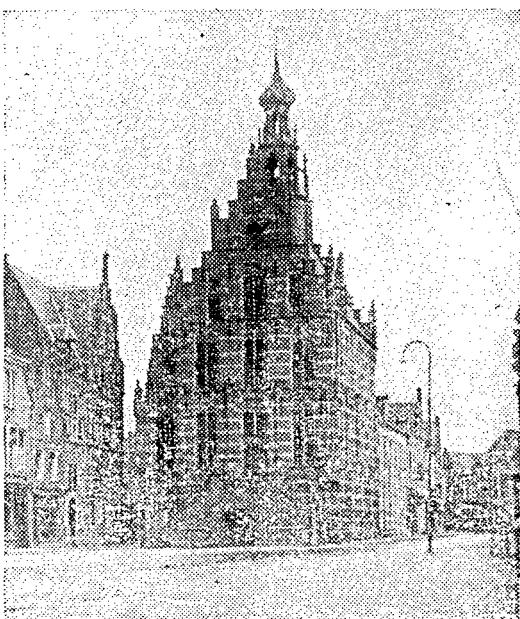
Now, three centuries later, South Africans are commemorating in a great national celebration the day when Jan van Riebeeck and his sturdy band of pioneers stepped ashore at the Cape of Good Hope.

Left: The Town Hall of Culemborg, built in 1534. Jan van Riebeeck was born in this Dutch town in 1618. A replica of this Town Hall has been built in Cape Town as Holland's contribution to the celebrations

Right: The gateway of Cape Town Castle, the historic fortress overlooking Table Bay, which was built in the early years of the settlement



Maria van Riebeeck, the courageous wife of the Commander of the settlers, and one of their four daughters born in South Africa



Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · E.C.4
APRIL 5 1952

LOOKING AND LEARNING

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has drawn attention to what he feels are the dangers of introducing television into schools. As a former headmaster he is convinced that anything likely to lessen the close connection between teacher and taught, the personal touch, is to be deplored.

Not everyone will agree with the Archbishop; but his words should be heeded, for they carry a timely warning. The use of television as a teaching medium is merely in the experimental stage, but its inevitable progress will create new problems as well as open up new horizons.

Similar objections have been made to the use of radio in schools; but a recently-published Ministry of Education pamphlet, based on exhaustive inquiry, states that "so far from there being any danger of the teacher being 'put out of business,' school broadcasts give him extra matter, extra means of developing his effort, and more incentive to sustained thought about his craft."

With the ripe experience of the present radio programmes in schools the new medium of television will have much to guide it. As in the case of radio, television's value in schools will depend on the use made of it by the teacher.

Under the Editor's Table

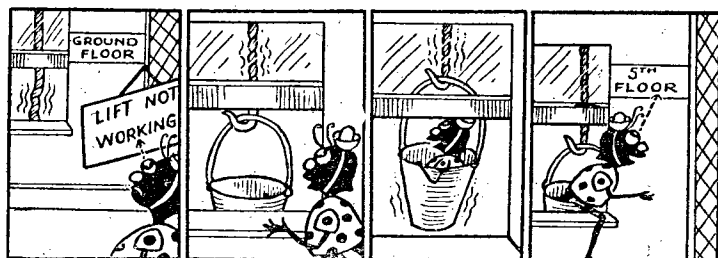
A motorist urges the increased use of the horn. Thinks it a sound principle.

A doctor says too many mothers let themselves be mastered by their babies. The babies are up in arms.

You hardly ever see girls in clean white pinafores, says an old lady. They would soon be spotted.

We draw on our gold reserves to buy foreign cheeses, we are told. Paying through the nose.

BILLY BEETLE



FOREST OF MEMORY

SOME trees have been planted just outside Jerusalem to commemorate Count Folke Bernadotte, who in 1948 gave his life for the cause of peace in Palestine. He was assassinated while acting as United Nations Mediator in that then unhappy land.

Representatives of the Israeli Government, the United Nations, and Sweden planted the trees—the beginnings of a beautiful forest to honour the memory of a great-hearted man.

At the ceremony General Riley, United Nations representative in Israel, spoke these moving words:

"This forest will pay an enduring tribute to an outstanding peacemaker, a great internationalist and humanitarian, and a devoted servant of the United Nations. As it grows, may it ever flourish in that atmosphere of peace and good will among men for which Count Bernadotte gave his all."

This Kind World

A PARTY of 25 British children suffering from tuberculosis are now undergoing treatment at Vordingborg sanatorium, in Denmark. Other parties of children will follow in due course, the good fairy behind the scheme being the Anglo-Danish Society, which will meet the cost out of a special fund.

The children were flown to Denmark in charge of a Red Cross welfare officer, Miss Pearl Cunningham, who will stay with them during the six months of treatment, helping with their education and keeping them in touch with their parents.

Prince Georg of Denmark, chairman of the Society's Appeal Committee, was at Northolt to speed the children on their way. "It is this sort of practical co-operation," he said, "that more than anything else deepens the understanding between nations."

PETER PUCK WANTS TO KNOW

If cup-tie fever is catching

A celebrated writer says he has made a small fortune out of his lectures. Doesn't believe in free speech all the time.

A visitor from Uganda came especially to experience a London fog. And then could not see anything in it.

The Editor's Table

Motherland's gift to two daughters

COPIES of a book describing how our Parliament works have been presented to the Nigerian House of Representatives and to the Legislative Assembly of the Gold Coast.

The book is Erskine May's Parliamentary Practice, and each copy has the signature of the Lord Chancellor, the Speaker, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, and Lord Campion, one of the editors of the book.

It is a charming symbolic gesture—a presentation of a book of good advice from the Mother of Parliaments to two young daughters starting out on a new life.

What's on her mind?



The easy way for this Arab woman to carry her sewing-machine through the streets of Tripoli was to balance it on her head.

WATERPROOF

LEGAL definitions often seem obscure, but there is more in them than meets the layman's eye.

In the House of Lords a new Bill to prevent deer-poaching in Scotland was being discussed recently, and Lord Brouncker drew attention to a clause stating that a policeman "may, on land, seize any deer, firearm, vehicle, or boat" being used by poachers. Then he pointed out that in his part of the country boats were not usually used on land, but on water.

Lord Home then raised a laugh in the House by explaining that under the terms of the Bill "land includes land covered by water." And he added, "A watertight definition, I think!"

The lawyers had left no loophole in the law for a poacher to get through—even in a boat.

Thirty Years Ago

By the efforts of British animal lovers and haters of cruelty, the proposal to introduce bull-fighting into France has been killed.

It was at Cannes, the lovely town of palms and blue sky on the Mediterranean, that the revolting sport was to have taken place. As soon as the bullfights were advertised protests were made by British visitors and by newspapers in England.

Nothing was done, however, until the hotel-keepers became alarmed at the threats of British visitors to leave the town. They went to the mayor and told him that the prosperity of the town was in danger, and at last he agreed to stop the bullfight from being held.

A fine victory won for decency and kindness to our animal friends!

From the Children's Newspaper
April 8, 1922

JUST AN IDEA

In the words of George Sand: To forgive a fault in another is more sublime than to be faultless in one's self.

FIREGUARDS

THERE is every prospect that Parliament will shortly pass a Safety-First Bill recently introduced as a private measure by an M.P., but supported by all. This Bill would prohibit the sale of electric fires and gas fires unless fitted with an adequate fireguard.

Many lives would have been saved, and much suffering avoided, if only the fitting of these fireguards had been made compulsory from the start. We can only say Better Late Than Never to a measure of reform long overdue.

SWEETER THAN SPRING

Sweet is the breath of vernal shower,
The bee's collected treasure sweet,
Sweet music's melting fall; but
Sweeter yet
The still small voice of gratitude.
Thomas Gray

The Children's Newspaper, April 5, 1952

THINGS SAID

LIFE can never be dull... Even in prison I was never dull, and never had the feeling that I was wasting time. I was learning to live on my own resources. There is still so much to learn.
Mrs. Odette Churchill, G.C.

THERE is nothing quite so beautiful as an informal English garden. No one could describe its beauty to those who have never seen one.
Mrs. Grace Ross,
N.Z. Welfare Minister

THE word permanent is constantly misused. Why should one talk of a permanent wave when it is an ephemeral phenomenon?
Judge Blagden

I AM confronted by one dominant personal conviction—during the next few months no other job or mission that I can discharge seems more important than the one in which I am now engaged.
General Eisenhower

MAYBE we cannot achieve our aim fully in this generation or the next, but we can set the wheels rolling.
President Truman

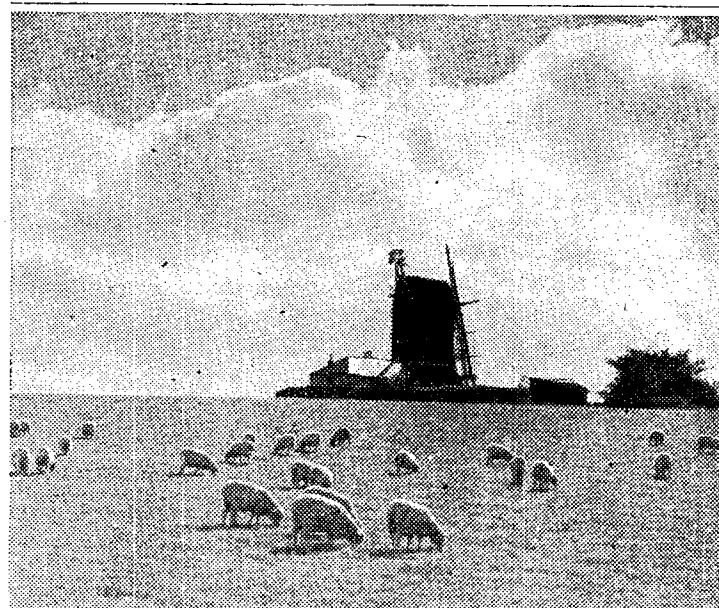
THE Trafalgar Square starlings... talk all night. They are much worse than any all-night sittings in the House because they talk simultaneously.
Sir Herbert Williams, M.P.

IN THE COUNTRY

IT is April, and now, indeed, we can sing of this "green and pleasant land." Emerald waves of unfolding buds spread over hedgerow and copse, larchwood, and wayside thorn.

Pastures are now studded with the silver of the humble daisy, the "day's eye" of our Saxon forbears. From earliest times our poets have esteemed this little flower; Chaucer forsook his books to wander in the fields and pay homage to its shy beauty.

To follow the winding paths at this season is sheer delight. Each day brings new arrivals to Birdland, fresh insects on the wing, and new-born flowers greeting the sun.



OUR HOMELAND Sheep grazing by the Hogg Windmill at Icklesham, Sussex

COVERED WAGONS AND FOREST FIRES

By Eric Gillett, the CN Film Critic

JAMES STEWART is one of the best and most versatile screen actors, and *Where the River Bends* is the most exciting Western in which he has appeared. This is certainly a film to see.

The setting is the Snake River country above Portland, Oregon, radiantly beautiful in Technicolor. When the covered wagon train of Midwestern pioneers enters the State their guide, Glyn McLyntock (James Stewart), rescues Cole Garrett (Arthur Kennedy) from being lynched by miners.

Cole is an attractive, pleasant man, but like Glyn he has been a border bandit. Jeremy Baile (Jay C. Flippen) believes that rogues

The dialogue in this film is sensible and realistic, and the camera work is most effective. The plot is reasonably probable, and Anthony Mann's direction is able.

James Stewart is not just a film star; he is a polished and accomplished actor. To realise this we have only to compare his performance in this film with his portrait of the absent-minded scientist in *No Highway*. It would be hard to find two such different roles played so convincingly.

RED SKIES OF MONTANA is magnificent in its thrilling account of the work done by the parachute



A scene from *Where the River Bends*

never reform, and he is confirmed in this view when Cole decides to partner Tom Hendricks (Howard Petrie) in a Portland gambling saloon.

Glyn remains with the settlers, but when the river boat fails to bring them supplies he goes to Portland, commandeers the river boat, and brings her back upstream.

Hendricks and his followers ride in pursuit and try to trap them at the rapids, but Glyn's counter-measures are effective, and the final scenes are full of thrilling incidents, including a tremendous struggle between Glyn and Cole in the icy Snake River.

Where the River Bends is a striking example of the very great improvement made in Western pictures during the last few years. The characterisation is far less crude than it used to be.

fire-fighters of the U.S. Forest Service.

There are beautiful red-gold sequences in which the great forest fires seem to blaze almost out of the screen. These are superb.

Unfortunately it was thought necessary to introduce a silly and improbable story of hatred and revenge that distracts the attention from the fascinating record of bravery and skill which is the real backbone of the picture.

The actors have very few opportunities, but Richard Widmark is natural and at ease in the role of Cliff Mason, the foreman, who escapes when his crew are trapped in a forest fire.

Some of the photography is outstandingly good, and the director, Joseph M. Newman, shows what can be done by restraint and intelligence, even though the plot is always a handicap.

Australian sheep flown to Israel

A new development which may one day rival the great Australian sheep industry is planned for Israel. It is largely due to Dr. Solomon Goldberg, a New South Wales surgeon who also has a considerable reputation as a sheep farmer.

During a world tour last year Dr. Goldberg visited Israel to see his birthplace at Rishon, which he had left when a boy of four. A number of prominent agriculturists told him of their concern at the inferior breed of sheep in Israel, which produced so poor a quality of wool and meat as to be almost unmarketable.

The Israeli Government invited the doctor-grazier during his stay to examine the possibility of setting up a sheep industry in Israel on the Australian model. After months of study he recommended the establishment of a nucleus of about 1000 head of sheep.

WORLD'S FINEST BREED

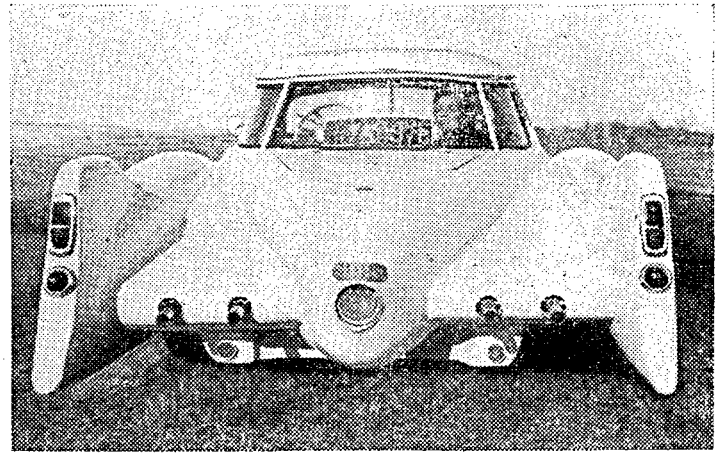
The Government then selected a 1000-acre property on which to make the experiment, and asked Dr. Goldberg to supervise the work. This he has undertaken to do, and from his own flocks he is sending 1200 Corriedale sheep, claimed by graziers to be the finest wool and meat producers in the world.

Through an American friend Dr. Goldberg has been able to secure all the farm machinery necessary to prepare the land, which has now been cultivated and sown with seed for fodder.

But getting the sheep from Australia to Israel was a more difficult task. The journey by sea would have taken some weeks, and the doctor feared that the mortality rate would have been high, while the surviving sheep would have arrived in poor condition. So he arranged to take them by air from New South Wales to Israel, a three-day journey.

Dr. Goldberg will make frequent air trips to study the progress made by the flock.

IT'S THE BACK THAT COUNTS



The streamlined back of a new German car

The modern motor-car has a streamlined shape which reduces air resistance. But did you know that in streamlining the *back* of the car is more important than the front?

Recent tests have confirmed that a car with a streamlined front and a square back may have more than twice the air resistance of a car with a square front and a streamlined rear shape.

One way of checking the streamlining of any car is to drive it at high speed in wet weather. If raindrops collect on the rear window, then the streamlined shape is poor. With an efficient shape the rain-laden air sweeps right past the window.

All kinds of other interesting facts have also come to light. With the same engine and chassis, a saloon car is generally a little faster than an open sports type body.

Bad shapes will also set up wind noise at high speeds. Opening a window may sometimes reduce top speed by as much as five miles per hour.

Many leading manufacturers test scale models of their cars in wind tunnels to determine the best shapes for new models. The final design adopted is a compromise between the best "aerodynamic" shape, one which has "eye appeal," and one which fits in with production methods.

WHERE NELSON SHOWED HIS METTLE

The Society of Friends of English Harbour, Antigua, Leeward Islands, are aiming to restore facilities at the dockyard, given up by the Royal Navy in 1906. Although in a poor state of repair, many of the buildings could be restored if funds were available.

The Leeward Islands can claim a special link with Nelson, for it was while in charge of that part of the West Indies—in 1784, when only 26—that the future admiral disobeyed the orders of his commander-in-chief, Sir Richard Hughes, by seizing five American ships engaged in what he regarded as irregular traffic.

For Hughes had permitted these ships to sail under colonial regis-

ters, and at the discretion of the British governors of the island with which they traded.

Nelson, however, had other views, and rightly holding the trade an infringement of the navigation laws, promptly suppressed it. In the end Nelson's action received official support.

But the enthusiastic officer, who was to act in a similar way at the Battle of Copenhagen, was incensed when the Government's thanks for activity and zeal in protecting the commerce of Great Britain were accepted by Hughes for himself. "I feel much hurt that . . . another should be thanked for what I did against his orders," he wrote.

Empire Mosaic—4

by Ridgway

WINSTON SPENCER CHURCHILL
War correspondent during Boer War. Taken prisoner near Chieveley, Natal, Nov. 15, 1899. Escaped Dec. 12, 1899. A reward of £25 was offered for his capture DEAD or ALIVE!

CHOCOLATE GOLD
Staple industry of the Gold Coast are the cocoa plantations which yield 278,000 tons per year. Each tree bears about 20 pods from which the bean is extracted. These are covered with plantain leaves and left to ferment. Quality of cocoa depends upon fermentation.

"ROYAL WILLIAM"
First ship to sail the Atlantic entirely under steam was built in the shipyards of Quebec. Launched, April 29, 1831

TREATY OF WAITANGI
In May 1840, Captain Hobson concluded at Waitangi, New Zealand, a treaty by which the Maoris ceded to Queen Victoria all powers of sovereignty and, in return, were guaranteed full possession of their lands and other properties.

APOSTLE OF THE PEAK

In many a village of Derbyshire the name of the Revd. William Bagshaw will be honoured this week, for it was on April 1, 1702, that his 50 years' service as a preacher ended with his death. He was known as the Apostle of the Peak.

Bagshaw's first ten years in orders were spent as vicar of Glossop, but under the Act of Uniformity of 1662 he was expelled from his living. He spent the rest of his life founding Nonconformist chapels in the Peak District and he wrote an account of this evangelical work in his book *De Spiritualibus Peccati*.

William Bagshaw was born at Litton in 1627, the son of the wealthy Lord of the Manor of Great Hucklow. He was educated at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and entered the Church against his father's wishes.

Bagshaw was a friend of the Revd. Thomas Stanley, who was expelled from the rectory of Eyam, but who remained in the village during its desolation by plague in 1665-6. When Stanley was dying, Bagshaw was summoned from his bed to give comfort to his friend, and later preached the funeral sermon on this hero.

Bagshaw was clearly popular with Churchmen as well as Nonconformists, for he was buried in Chapel-en-le-Frith Church, where the Parish Registers states: 1702, April, Mr. William Bagshaw of the Fford, Nonconformist Minister, was buried in the chancel. Styled the Apostle of the Peake.

THE QUEEN'S TELESCOPES

The Queen has expressed a wish that the telescopes presented to each of the two senior cadet captains at the end-of-term ceremony at the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, shall be known as the Queen's telescopes. The custom was inaugurated by King George VI. This year's presentation will be made by the Second Sea Lord, Vice-Admiral Sir Alexander Madden.

Forced to begin work in a pottery at the age of nine through the death of his father, Josiah Wedgwood quickly became skilled in working clay, and later acquired ability on the potter's wheel.



Pioneers 71. JOSIAH WEDGWOOD, great artist in pottery

A knee injury thwarted this outlet for his creative skill but work in other departments broadened his insight into the craft. At 29 he opened his own pottery.



There he spent arduous years experimenting in new glazing and colouring methods. He also gave artistry of form to his products and thus made them world-famous.

A generous and public-spirited man, Wedgwood raised the comparatively crude and minor craft of pottery into an elegant art and an important part of national commerce.



WILL CROOKS — LAUGHING CRUSADER OF POPLAR

Will Crooks, M.P., who was born in Poplar on April 6, just 100 years ago, was a Londoner who served Londoners well. He lived among the poor all his life, and he worked to help them all his life. But he was a genial reformer, indeed, a laughing crusader with a fund of humour which never deserted him.

Will's father was crippled, and his mother used to try to make ends meet by sewing oilskin coats. He would sit up at night watching her work by candlelight. But despite all her efforts Will and his six brothers and sisters at one time had to spend some weeks in the workhouse. It was an experience he never forgot.

When he was eleven, Will went to work in a blacksmith's. And how proudly he brought home his first week's wages—five shillings! About this time a glimpse of his future was revealed. During an election, he stole away for an hour, and the angry smith asked where he had been. "Only to see the

state of the poll," said the youngster. "You'll know the state of the poll on Saturday, my lad!" was the reply, and sure enough, on pay-day Will was duly deprived of a shilling.

He moved from the forge to a cooper's, and was married at 19. But misfortune came when he refused to complete a task with inferior material and was dismissed. A miserable period of unemployment followed, during which their baby daughter died.

GOOD CRAFTSMAN

Eventually Will was taken on by another cooper, who quickly realised his worth, for Will constantly encouraged the principle of good craftsmanship. Books bought for a few coppers on wayside stalls opened a new world; he read Dickens and Scott and Shakespeare.

Then he began to address political meetings at the dock gates. Constructive and well-behaved, these were soon dubbed "Crooks' College." The ideas of Thames tunnels, municipal libraries and gymnasiums, playgrounds, and workhouse reform were all mooted there. Full of anecdotes, always good-tempered, Will became the most popular man in Poplar.

Elected to the London County Council in 1892, he inspired affection even in opponents. He joined the Bridge Committee, and, when the Blackwall Tunnel was

started, lectured about it all over London.

Will threw himself into the task of workhouse reform when he was appointed to the Poplar Board of Guardians, after rejecting an offer of a well-paid private managerial position. Administrative failures were exposed, inmates' food and clothing improved, the hated children's uniform abolished. So impressed was the Government that it ordered all authorities in Britain to follow the Poplar plan.

Crooks was an M.P. for 18 years, but his proudest moment came in 1901, when he was made mayor of his beloved Poplar—the first Labour mayor in London. He was elected after several heats, and when the news became known a jubilant cry went up: "Our Will's to be mayor!"

"Like a poor man in Dickens," was G. K. Chesterton's description of the good-hearted bearded Crooks, and when he died in 1921 the mourning extended far beyond the boundaries of his native city.

BIRD'S LONG FLIGHT

New Zealand naturalists have established the fact that a petrel found dead on the beach at Chase's Gorge, Dargaville, had been ringed in the South Orkneys while still a fledgling in the downy stage seven months earlier. It is estimated that the bird had flown 6500 miles in four months.

LITTLE LADIES AT YORK

A hundred and fifty little ladies from 12 to 16 inches high have gone to stay at York. They are the Lilian Lunn collection of miniature costume dolls, and they have been lent by her to the Castle Museum for at least a year.

Representing the costume of seven centuries, these dolls look almost lifelike, with their dress, jewellery, handbags, and hair styles correct in every detail.

Queen Elizabeth I is there, majestic in ruffe and full-skirted dress, with a long string of minute pearls round her neck. In contrast, there is Queen Anne in plain grey, and Queen Victoria's stocky figure clad completely in black.

The ladies of the present Royal Family have a case to themselves. Their dress has been faithfully copied, even to the twin rows of pearls which Queen Elizabeth so often wears, and a brooch which is a favourite with Queen Mary.

Other well-known figures in the collection are the three Brontë sisters, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Moira Shearer, Lady Teazle, and Nell Gwyn, with her basket of oranges.

Mrs. Lunn makes everything herself, using chenille, cords, silks, cottons, and velvets. She estimates that in some dolls she has worked as many as 30,000 stitches and that the dolls now on show at York represent about six years' work.

POT PLANTS AT SEA

For the last six months a Danish freighter has sailed the seas with her living quarters and messes adorned by a variety of pot plants.

This job of experimental gardening at sea has been carried out by the Danish Merchant Navy's welfare organisation, to find out which plants thrive best on board ship.

The results are being sent to all Danish shipping companies, and it is hoped that pot plants securely fixed to bulkheads and mess tables will soon be giving a homely atmosphere to men's living quarters on other ships.

THE FOUR FEATHERS—PICTURE-VERSION OF A. E. W. MASON'S GRAND STORY (11)



Harry, Trench, and their Arab friends got away on camels. Farther out in the desert fresh camels awaited them, as well as rifles and ammunition. "Now I don't mind," laughed Trench. "Let them follow from Omdurman! One thing is certain. I shall never go back there; no, not even if they overtake us." The little party rode on.



They travelled on until they reached a region traversed by caravans. As it was not safe here for them to move by day, Abou Fatma told them to build a low circle of stones and hide in it while he took the camels and went to the Nile to see if the boat was ready. That day seemed the longest of their lives.



After dark, Abou Fatma came back with the camels, and told them that their escape was known in Omdurman. The roads and ferries over the river were being closely watched. "Before sunrise we must have struck inland from the eastern bank of the Nile," he said. They crossed cautiously, then sank the boat.



They rode on for another week before they were safe in the territory of friendly Arabs. It was not until then that Harry, his self-imposed task accomplished, gave Trench back his white feather. He asked Trench to return to England before him, find Ethne, his former fiancée, and tell her of their adventures.

Ethne is now engaged to blind Durrance. How will she treat Harry? See next week's concluding instalment

THE BUCKINGHAMS AT RAVENSWYKE

Grand story by
Malcolm
Saville

Charles Renislau and the Buckinghams spent a night in a cave after being lost on the moors. In the cave they found an old scribbling pad. When they got back to Ravenswyke they were interviewed by Sergeant Brandon. Juliet had brought back the scribbling pad, on which they found the impression of a message. Juliet said that the paper of the pad was the same colour as that of a sketch given to her by the artist at Robin Hood's Bay. They then received an invitation, which included Charles, to go to London to stay with their Uncle Joe.

12. End of the hunt

UNCLE JOE BUCKINGHAM was a very nice uncle. He was an artist, a bachelor, and he lived in Chelsea. He liked Juliet and Simon and Charles, and was prepared to spoil them all. On the evening of the first full day they spent in London he took them out to dinner in Soho, and then, in a water-bus, down the Thames to the Battersea Pleasure Gardens.

"Here you are," Uncle Joe said as the boat sidled into the landing stage. "This is where people forget their worries for a while. They buy and wear funny hats, they spend their money on darts and rifles, watch the Wall of Death, and they—"

"Go on the Big Dipper," Simon said. "That's what I want to do. Is that it over there?"

They stood on the promenade with the river behind them and watched the fairy lights in the trees, and the high, curved row of winking lights that showed the track of the Dipper.

"I'm getting too old for such delights," Uncle Joe said, "but I'll stand below and watch you."

They walked through the laughing crowds and came to a pool where miniature motor-boats were chugging; they saw the madly whirling cars of the Trip to the Moon, and the revolving Great Wheel, and listened to the hoarse voice of the man on a high platform urging them to come in and watch the intrepid motor-cycle riders on the Wall of Death.

THEY paused at an ice-cream stall close to one of the entrances almost under the Dipper. Then Juliet noticed that Charles was staring at some men just outside the entrance.

"Come on, Charles," she teased. "Take me on the Dipper. What's wrong?"

"Perhaps I'm crazy, Julie, but surely that man over there with his back to the wall is Sergeant Brandon? If not it's his double. And just now he was talking to another man who has gone through a door there—and he looked like Father."

"But it is Brandon, Charles. I'm sure it is. We'll wait here. Go and see."

"What's going on?" Uncle Joe said, and Juliet, who had already given him the story of their Yorkshire adventure, told him what

Charles had said. Then they saw Charles beckoning.

They went over, and two minutes later found themselves in a little office with Brandon, two other detectives, and Mr. Renislau.

"We've telephoned your flat several times since we arrived in London," said Mr. Renislau, as he shook hands with Uncle Joe. "Listen to what Brandon has to tell you."

THE detective wasted no time.

"Thanks to Juliet remembering that the artist who sketched her said he was staying at Pride's Bridge, we made some inquiries there and satisfied ourselves that the artist, wearing dark glasses to hide his blue eyes, was Jan who, of course, is Cartwright. We allowed him to escape, believing that he will lead us to someone more important . . .

"We are positive that he is here in the Pleasure Gardens tonight,

MONDAY ADVENTURE

On this page next week will appear the first instalment of a grand new serial story by John Pudney, the well-known poet, author, and dramatist.

but we missed him at the entrance. He's wearing a sports jacket over an open-necked shirt, and I'll be glad if you'll all help, although Mr. Renislau has come with us to identify him. He has probably discarded his dark glasses by now but we cannot be sure."

He turned to Mr. Renislau. "We must search the grounds between us. If I send a man with your son and another with Juliet, who will recognise him if he is in his artist disguise, will you come with me? Good. Juliet, Simon, Mr. Buckingham, and Sergeant Green to search the Fun Fair, we'll do the restaurants and cafés. As soon as he's spotted, one person only to report back here to Sergeant Chadwick. In any case, someone from each party to report here each half-hour."

Uncle Joe and Simon decided that they would rather sit down

and have a drink than search for somebody they did not know, so Juliet's detective took her off and bought her a straw hat to hide her gleaming head.

"If he's seen you before he'll remember you," he said. "Let's go and see what's happening round the comic clock. It's just going to strike half-past nine. Have you seen it before? It strikes every quarter and all sorts of things happen."

"The clock which plays every quarter . . . Wait at 9.30 each evening until I come." The words were very familiar.

"Quickly," she said as she dragged the detective to the outskirts of the waiting crowd. "This is a real clue."

THEN the clock began to perform.

It was a crazy, fairy-tale clock. As the hands pointed to the half-hour, some jolly musical-box chimes rang out, the dial lit up, and trick doors opened to disclose curious, performing figures.

Juliet looked away, and there, in the shadows under a floodlit tree, she saw a man and woman talking. The man was in a tweed coat and open shirt. The woman—plain, with straight, greying hair and strong glasses, looked older and more dominating. The man lit a match for a cigarette and, as it flared up, Juliet caught a sudden glimpse of cold, pale blue eyes.

The quest was over. She turned away with a shudder of distaste and fear just as Mr. Renislau touched her on the shoulder. "It's all right, my dear. It's all over now. Come away and forget it. We suddenly thought of the clue of the clock too. The word 'sea' on the message was the end of 'Battersea.'"

She saw Brandon, and then her detective slipped away unobtrusively from her side. Charles was with Mr. Buckingham and Simon when they came up to the open-air café.

"Look!" Charles pointed to the side of the café where people were sitting in separate compartments under cover—drinking, eating sandwiches, and watching the crowds go by. "Surely that's him?"

THERE was Jan, looking like an ordinary visitor to the Festival, leading his companion to some empty seats. A few yards behind them strolled Brandon and his two detectives. Jan and the woman sat down on a bench and began to talk with their heads very close. Then he put his hand in his inside pocket and passed over a long envelope.

As the woman fumbled with her bag, the detectives slipped into two vacant places, and Brandon sat next to Jan. For a second the watchers saw the flash of hatred in the cold, blue eyes no longer hidden by dark glasses, and then, through the laughing, chattering crowds, the spy and traitor known as Jan walked away with his com-

Continued on page 10

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- 2 What is a phillumenist?
- 3 How far is the Moon from the Earth?
- 4 A pliant substance will bend, break, or melt easily?
- 5 Why does Australia honour the memory of John Murray?
- 6 To what sport was Isaak Walton devoted?
- 7 Where is the source of the Nile?
- 8 What causes a rainbow?

Answers on page 11

The Children's Newspaper, April 5, 1952
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MIDSUMMER MELTS THE NORTH POLE OF MARS

By the CN Astronomer

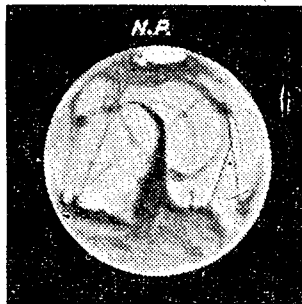
THAT most interesting planet Mars may now be seen in the evening after his long absence.

He is at a low altitude in the constellation of Libra, but his position will improve as the weeks go by. At present the planet rises soon after 9 o'clock and may be easily recognised by his rosy or orange hue.

He will be at his nearest to us on May 8, when he will be 52 million miles away; at present he is about 60 million miles distant.

This is quite a good apparition of Mars, for he will come nearer to us than he has for eight years.

The tilt of the Polar Axis of the



planet changes gradually at each successive apparition when it is presented toward the Earth. On this occasion it is the North Pole area of ice and snow that is seen—just now to the extent of about 15 degrees, as shown in the picture.

This area is seen telescopically as a brilliant white region, very distinct in outline. Sometimes there are detached portions which appear to have broken away, and may even be seen as if floating away on the very obvious dark water area surrounding the Pole.

It is now almost midsummer on the planet's Northern Hemisphere, so until the end of our July, when the Martian autumn begins, the area of this brilliant snow-cap will become gradually smaller. It has been known actually to disappear.

Imagine our own North Polar region of ice and snow disappear-

ing in a single season! But from the way the Martian ice-cap reacts to the warmth of summer, it is inferred that the Martian winter deposits but a relatively thin coating of ice and snow.

Nevertheless, it is sufficient to produce a large volume of water to flood a wide region round the polar area. This is seen to darken and extend southwards for several hundreds of miles. It has been regarded by some expert observers as a source of some of the water to provide those belts of apparent fertility which can be seen to extend from one water area, or sea, to another.

These irrigated belts of vegetation, incorrectly called "canals," are hundreds or even a thousand miles long, and may be as much as a hundred miles wide. They come and go with the seasons in some cases, while others are permanent features.

They are most distinct where they cross the reddish areas which give Mars his distinctive colour, encircling his sphere with what appears to be a more or less desert region about 2000 miles wide.

This area is shown light in the picture. The curious dark sea feature known as the Syrtis Major extends from north to south and divides these great reddish regions, their dark areas being regarded as oases.

The reddish hue of Mars varies with different apparitions. At times it changes to a lighter orange tint, depending upon whether a large proportion of his desert region is in evidence or whether light clouds or mists may be obscuring big areas, thus altering temporarily various features and outlines.

These, however, reappear with their same "geographical" outline, while others clearly change with the Martian seasons and the presence or otherwise of water, which is obviously not as plentiful as on our Earth. G. F. M.

The Buckingham at Ravenswyke

Continued from page 9

panion—and the detectives. The game was up!

For a few minutes even Simon was silent. Uncle Joe spoke first. "A very jolly evening, I must say. I can't stand much more of this merrymaking and suggest we go back to my flat for supper."

"That would be grand," Charles said. "But we do want to hear what Father has to tell us."

"Not much really that you can't guess. Jan really is a brilliant scientist, and was prepared to work at Eagle Hall for three years to get the information he wanted, although Mr. Marsdon tells me that he has not got it all. He was also an artist, and had spent previous holidays in his dark glasses at Pride's Bridge. He believed in having his hide-outs close to his scene of action. The red-haired Smith was caught in Scarborough yesterday, by the way."

"And what about the cave?" Charles said.

"We don't know quite what he used that for. He probably found it by chance and thought it would make a good hiding-place, if needed."

"But what about—?" Charles began again as Juliet jumped to her feet and hauled him to his feet, and said, "I want to go on the Dipper now until I'm dizzy... Come on, Charles. We'll come back to them here presently."

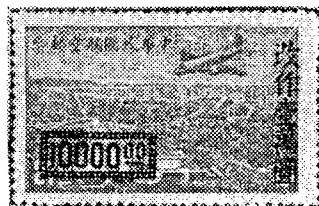
"But, Julie, I want to hear everything that has happened."

"Idiot," she said. "You can hear that any time. Can't you see that I want to forget it?"

THE END

The *Buckingham at Ravenswyke* will be published in book form this autumn. The first story about the *Buckingham* is called *The Master of Maryknoll*.

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BO BO AND CO CO

On the recently electrified line between Wath and Dunford in Yorkshire, Bo Bo engines are now drawing freight trains. A Bo Bo is an electric locomotive mounted on two bogies with two axles each (eight wheels), and a top speed of 65 m.p.h.

Passenger trains on this line are to be drawn by Co Co locomotives, which have two bogies and three axles (12 wheels, and a top speed of 90 m.p.h.)

The Wath-Dunford section is part of the great Manchester-Sheffield - Wath electrification scheme, which is being carried out in difficult country in the Pennines.

The project is expected to cost £10,000,000, but to save some 100,000 tons of coal a year.

YOUNG FARMER JOHN MAKES GOOD

John Belcher of Wokingham is only ten; but he is a self-made farmer.

His farm had its beginnings in father's backyard three years ago, when John bought a piglet and some chicks for £3—money he had earned by making himself busy on Saturday mornings. A year later, he had made enough to buy a second piglet.

By the time he was nine, John had £52, enough for a deposit on a two-acre field. His first crop produced a ton of barley, and he had to employ labour to harvest it while he was at school.

John wakes at 6.30 every morning, makes tea for his parents, then feeds his animals. As soon as school is done, he is home again tending his farm.

1400 TONS OF BIBLES

Over 1400 tons of paper are now on the printing machines of three large firms in the United States and by September will appear as a million copies of the American Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

Fifteen years ago American scholars started to revise the King James version of the Bible—the "Authorized Version." They went back to manuscripts not known to scholars in King James's day, and they have aimed to keep the familiar beauty of the Bible, but with more readable, everyday phrases where suitable.

The revised New Testament was published in 1946, and two million copies have already been sold.

MOVABLE SCHOOLS

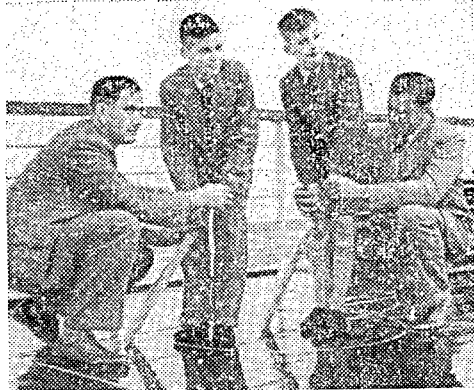
The West Riding County Council (Yorks.) is to spend £86,000 on 43 movable schools which will each take six to eight weeks to construct. The first will be at South View School, Yeadon.

These movable schools are intended to cope with the increased inflow of children to the schools next September. Designed by the county architect, the buildings are claimed to be the first of their kind in the country. They can be dismantled with ease and moved to areas where they are most needed.

SPORTS SHORTS

ONE of the reasons for 21-year-old Chris Chataway's success as a miler and middle-distance runner is his abnormally low pulse rate. The average person's pulse beats at 72 a minute, but this athlete's beat is only 45. Even at the end of a race his pulse is about 110—a rate that the average person reaches after the slightest exertion.

TABLE TENNIS twins Diane and Rosalind Rowe of Middlesex, are already planning to regain the world doubles title which they lost recently. They are practising against Johnny Joyce, one of our pre-war internationals, who uses the "old-fashioned" pen-holder grip so successfully adopted by the new Japanese champions.



ENGLAND and Scotland meet again at soccer on Saturday, at Hampden Park, Glasgow. Since the first meeting of the two countries in 1872 Scotland has won 31 times and England 21.

ROY ROMAIN, expert "butterfly" swimmer, and the only Briton to win a European swimming title since the war, is again in full training. A Walthamstow solicitor, Roy has had little competitive swimming since the 1950 Empire Games in New Zealand, but if he can regain his former speed, he may be one of our best Olympic "hopes."

Britain's swimmers will be taking part in district trials during the next two months, and the preliminary selections will go to Blackpool on June 14 for final trials before the team for Helsinki is chosen.

ST. MARY'S have won the Hospitals' Soccer Cup for the fourth time in five years—and for the fifth successive time their opponents in the final were Guy's Hospital!

THE AVOCET STILL WITH US

Few birds have been more closely studied in recent years than the avocet, which began to nest again in Britain in 1948 after an absence of nearly a century.

On their sanctuary of Havergate Island, Suffolk, 24 pairs of this water bird bred in 1951.

Eighty chicks were hatched, and 35 of these were reared to the free-flying stage, about the same number as in 1950.

Naturalists believe that the avocet is now securely established again in Britain.

Now that Wales has completed her international Rugby programme—and won the Triple Crown—Ken Jones, her famous wing three-quarter, is getting down to serious training in the hope of gaining a place in Britain's athletic team for Helsinki. Ken was a member of Britain's 4 x 100 metres relay team at the 1948 Olympics.

THE rare feat of winning titles in the London Federation of Boys' Clubs boxing championships three times was achieved recently by two boys. Seventeen-year-old Jimmy Newton added the ten-stone title to his previous successes, and Peter Kent won his third title at eight stone. In Peter's corner was his father, who won a Federation title 33 years ago.

TREASURED GIFTS

A pleasant surprise awaited Richard and David Walter when Alec and Eric Bedser arrived at Tilbury after a winter in Australia, where they had been writing and broadcasting on cricket. The two boys wrote to the Surrey cricket twins, and each was given a bat autographed by the Test teams of Australia and the West Indies.

A NEW "fourth-dimension" photo-finish camera is to be used for track events in the Olympic Games at Helsinki this summer.

Invented by the Swiss, the camera produces a complete photographic record of a race, to an accuracy of one 862,000th part of a second, only 90 seconds after the event.

THE County cricket champions in future will be rewarded with a pennant bearing their badge, which they will be allowed to fly at their matches during the following season. The pennant will be presented to the new champions by the winning county of the previous season.

THE F. T. Bidlake Cycling Memorial prize for 1951 has been awarded to Ken Joy of the Medway Wheelers. Last year Ken won two national championships in record-breaking time, and won the British best all-rounder competition for the third successive year, a feat which has only once been surpassed.

ELECTRIC WATCH

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YOUNG QUIZ—answers

- 1 Instrument for measuring the distance covered by a walker.
- 2 Matchbox-label collector.
- 3 238,000 miles.
- 4 Bend.
- 5 Because he discovered the harbour at Melbourne.
- 6 Angling.
- 7 Lake Victoria.
- 8 Light falling on raindrops.

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THE BRAN TUB

JUST ONE CLUB

A YOUNG man had saved a millionaire's child from drowning, and the grateful parent tried to press all sorts of magnificent rewards on the rescuer. He gallantly refused them all, but, finally giving in, said he would like a golf club.

Two days later the young man received a telegram which said: "Have purchased the Manston House Golf Club for you, and am now negotiating for the course."

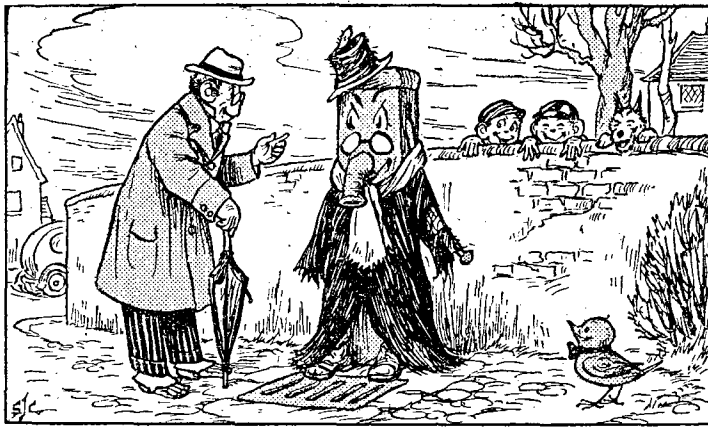
COUNTRYSIDE FLOWERS

IN early spring the foaming white blossoms of wild pear trees appear in woods and hedgerows. Their flowers, measuring about 1½



inches across, have five petals, and numerous stamens with purple anthers which gradually turn black. Twigs of the true wild pear often terminate in spines—a feature which helps to distinguish it from trees escaped from orchards. The fruit is small and of little use, but the wood is valued for furniture-making and carving.

JACKO SUPPLIES THE INFORMATION



"You know," mused Chimp, "when I first glance at that water pump it always reminds me of an old man." "Well, let's dress it up to look like an old man," said Jacko. They were just finishing when they heard someone coming. "Quickly," cried Jacko, "over this wall." It was a short-sighted old gentleman. "Would you please tell me the way to the station?" he asked, addressing the pump. "Second on the left," answered Jacko in a deep voice. "Thank you," said the professor. And he passed on his way.

Table trouble

"JOHNNY," scolded Mother, "stop eating with your knife."
"But my fork leaks," complained Johnny.

RIDDLE-MY-TOWN

IN pawn but not in knight;
In strength but not in might;
In roll but not in bread;
In told but not in said;
In jasper, not in jet.
A city of Somerset.

Answer next week

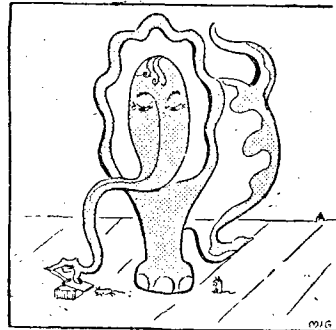
FLOWER PUZZLE

The initials of the answers to these clues will spell the name of a familiar flowering tree.

1. A famous flower of the East.
2. Some kinds are called Flag.
3. The flower of Eastertide.
4. These pink or mauve flowers bloom at the end of summer.
5. One of the earliest spring flowers. Bees love them and sparrows peck at them.

Answer next week

Kindly Kreecher



HELPING young mice
To get their first cheese;
With face so benign,
Is the Elephantese.

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked together, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second answer, and so on.

1. City of Pakistan, 5000 feet above sea level; in May 1935 it suffered a terrible earthquake in which all buildings were destroyed and thousands of people were killed.
2. Asiatic warrior king (1335-1405), renowned for his wide conquests and his cruelty; the ancient city of Samarkand was his capital.
3. English cardinal (1801-1890); he was at first a Protestant clergyman but was received into the Roman Catholic Church; wrote the hymn Lead, kindly Light.
4. Chief seaport of Belgium and one of the largest ports in the world.

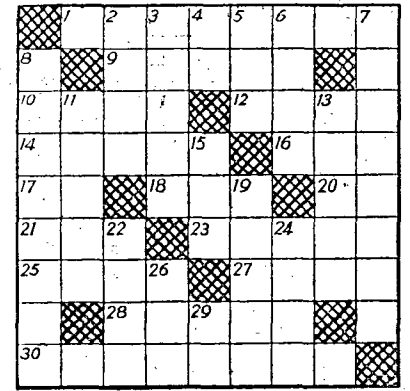
Answers next week

Crossword Puzzle

READING ACROSS. 1 Writer of music. 9 It's sticky. 10 Aid. 12 One of 52 used in games. 14 Cash. 16 Sheltered side. 17 Mister (abbrev.). 18 Referee (abbrev.). 20 Indefinite article. 21 Single. 23 Sword. 25 Side. 27 Part of shaft. 28 Small Arctic animal. 30 Buyers.

READING DOWN. 2 Ajar. 3 Latin for mother. 4 Postscript (abbrev.). 5 Officers' Training Corps (abbrev.). 6 Marine mammal. 7 Bad manners. 8 Jumbo's ancestors. 11 Carried. 13 Cultivates. 15 Aye. 19 Old story. 22 Comfort. 24 Dutch S. Africans. 26 Male. 29 Bachelor of Divinity (abbrev.).

Answer next week



FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS UNDERGROUND SPIDER.

On the common, at the foot of a bush, an odd piece of cobweb caught Don's attention. It was about two inches long and tubular, the diameter being roughly three-quarters of an inch.

"It belongs to a trapdoor spider," explained Farmer Gray. "The web extends for several inches into the sandy soil. When a victim is caught, the spider darts out, piercing it with sharp fangs. The prisoner is then dragged through the web to be eaten at leisure. The hole made in the web is then repaired. A female spends her entire life in her burrows. Males leave theirs to seek a mate."

Optimist

SAID a crazy old runner named Dewes:
"I don't think I can possibly lose;
I may win with ease—
I've put oil on my knees,
And ball bearings in both of my shoes."

Riddle in rhyme

My first is made by swarming bees;
My second means the crown.
My whole will drone a mellow tune
Until it has run down.

Answer next week

NO TIME TO STOP

THE removal men had just reported that they had dropped the old grandfather clock. "Did it stop?" said the owner.

"No, Ma'am," stammered one of the men, "it went right through into the room below."

Pithy proverb

LIFE is like a mirror, it reflects what you show it.

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

What am I? Will.

Jumbled programmes. Have a Go, Mrs. Dale's Diary, Over to You, Lift Up Your Hearts, Children's Hour, A Book at Bedtime.

Chain quiz. Congo, gorilla, Labrador, Orleans. Animal puzzle. Boar, ass, dog, goat, elephant, rat, (badger).

Riddle-my-town. Yarmouth (anagram of At my hour).

BEDTIME CORNER

Bold Billy's Arrow

HAVING seen a film about Robin Hood, Billy and Paul decided that they, too, would be bold warriors of the greenwood. So off they went to the woods to cut a bow.

They found two branches of the right length and thickness, trimmed them, and tied string to each end. But their search for arrows was not so successful. Then Billy had an idea.

"There are lots of old bits of cane sticking up in our garden," he said. "They'll make fine arrows."

They dashed home, and found that the canes were just what they wanted. The put pieces of card in the tops, and the arrows were ready.

They were just going to the park when Daddy came out and caught sight of the arrows. "Where did you get those canes?" he asked.

"Oh, we just found them in the garden," explained Billy. "What!" exploded Daddy. "Do you realise that those are my precious pea sticks? Just you go back and stick them in the ground again."

As the boys went sadly back, he smiled. "That's what I call a narrow escape," he said.

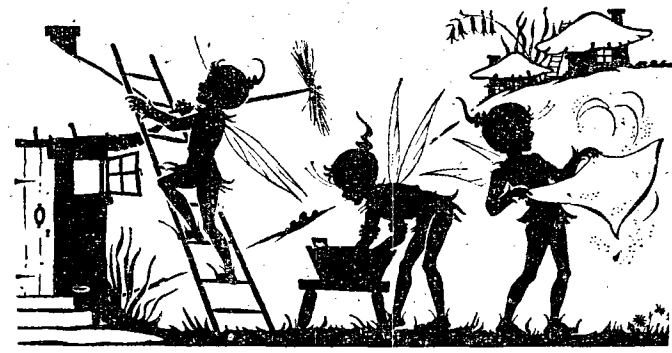
YOUR DOG

He greets you with a joyful bark,
His velvet eyes alive and bright.
A friendly word or just a pat,
Will set him quivering with delight.

When cares or sorrows visit you,
He comes and gently licks your hands.

And watches with moist, mournful eyes,
To show you that he understands.

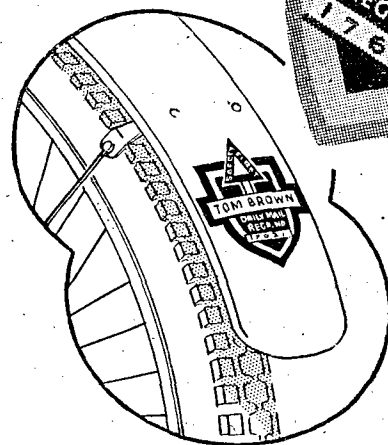
SPRING-CLEANING IN PIXIELAND



The Children's Newspaper is printed in England and published every Wednesday by the Proprietors, The Amalgamated Press, Ltd., The Fleetway House, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4. Editorial Offices: John Carpenter House, John Carpenter Street, London, E.C.4. Advertisement Offices: Tallis House, Tallis Street, London, E.C.4. It is registered as a newspaper for transmission by Canadian Magazine Post. Subscription Rates: Inland, 19s. 6d. for 12 months, 9s. 6d. for six months. Abroad and Canada, 17s. 4d. for 12 months, 8s. 8d. for six months. Sole Agents: Australasia, Messrs. Gordon & Gotch, Ltd.; South Africa, Central News Agency, Ltd.; Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Messrs. Kingstons, Ltd. April 5, 1952.

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